GET REEL:
No red carpet? No problem – our film guru taps Golden Globe winners/**C2**

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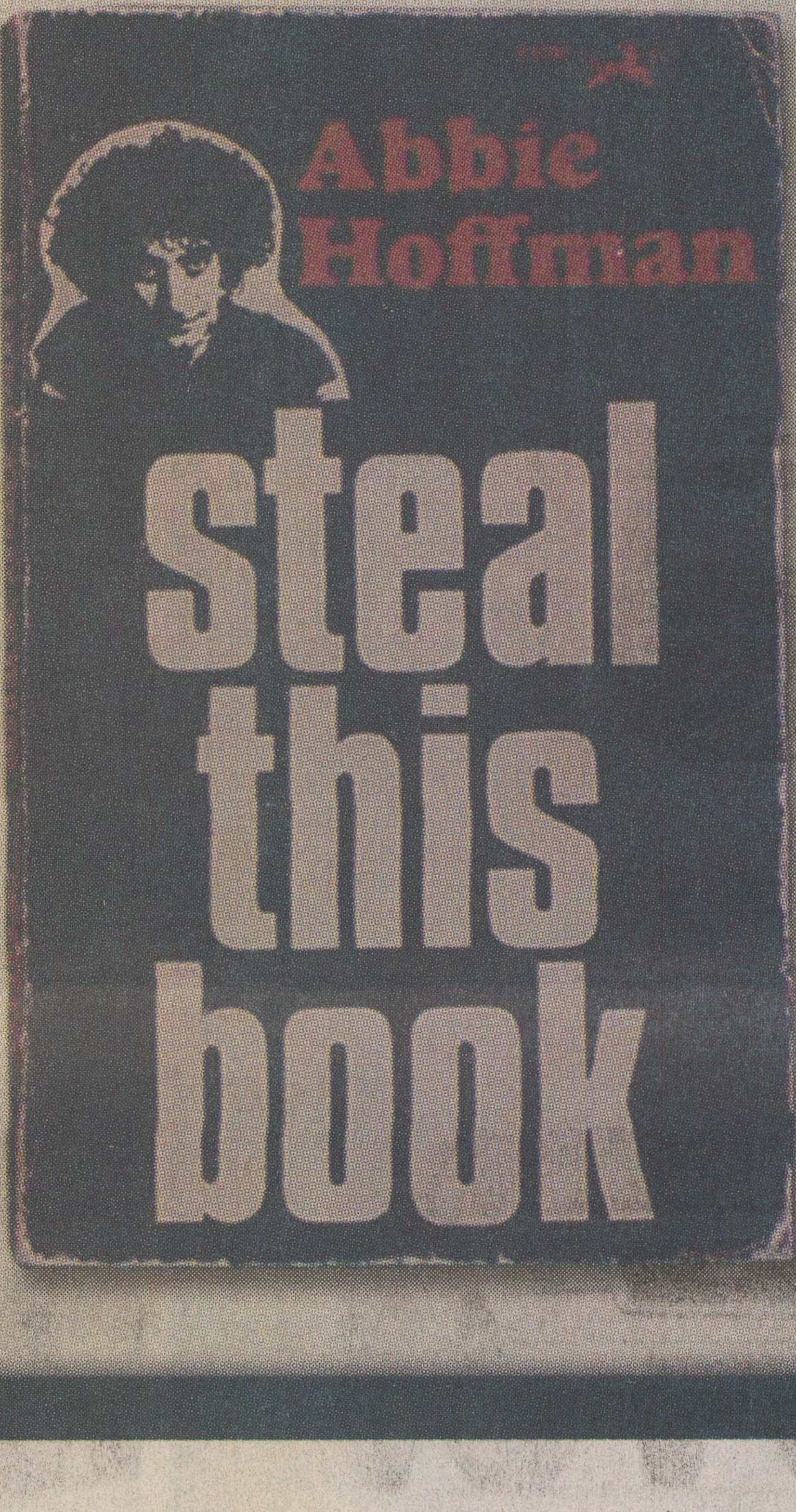
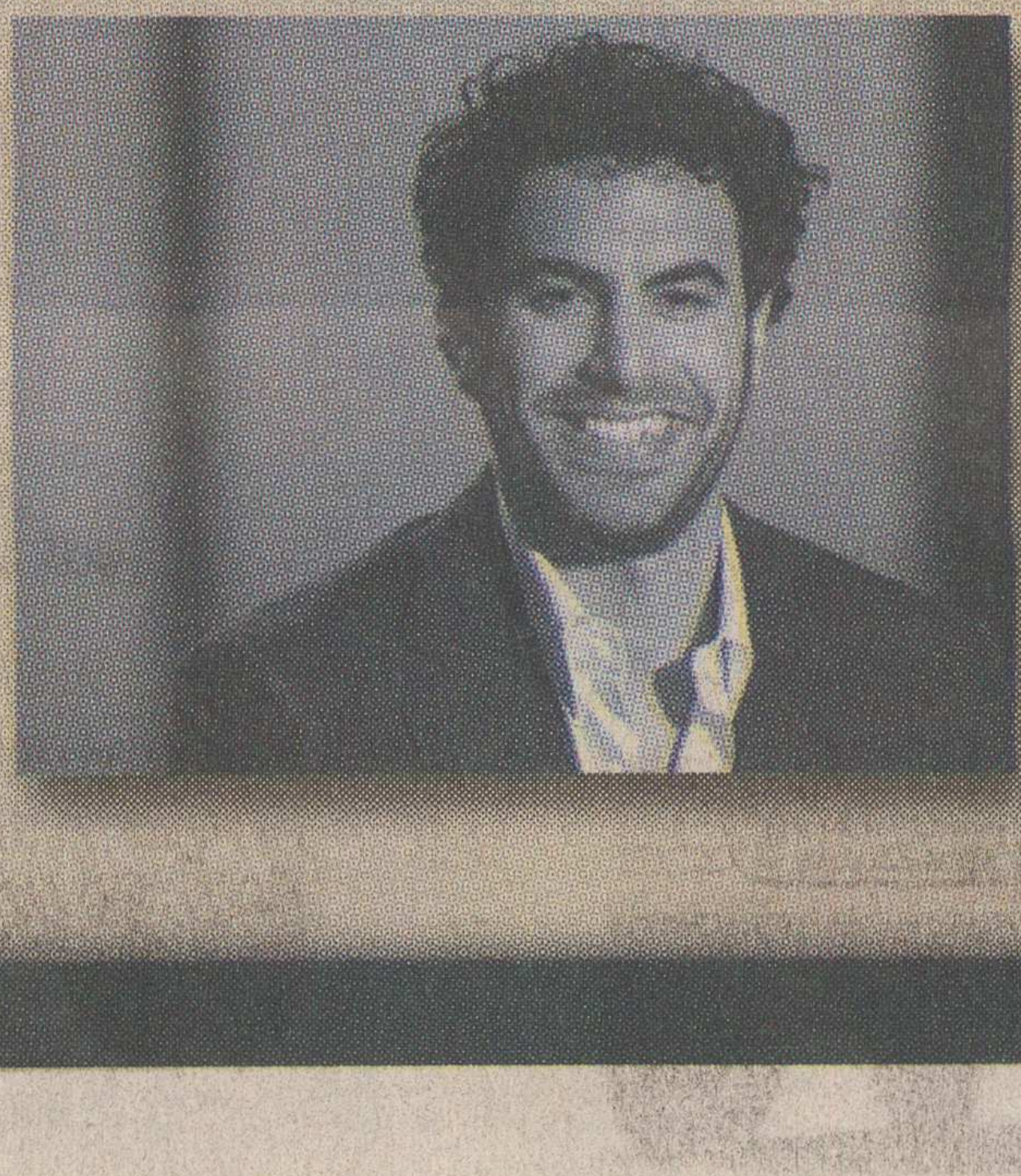




Sacha Baron Cohen on trial as Worcester radical in Spielberg film

WHEN BORAT MET ABBIE

By Chris Bergeron
DAILY NEWS STAFF

FRAMINGHAM – When Abbie Hoffman wrote "Soon to be a Major Motion Picture," the Worcester-bred radical activist could never have imagined he'd be reborn almost 20 years after his death by an English comic chameleon famous for turning "Borat" loose on America.

The Sunday Times of London, New York Times and several entertainment writers and Web sites have reported director Steven Spielberg has chosen Borat's creator, Sacha Baron Cohen, to play Hoffman in "The Trial of the Chicago 7." It's projected for a 2008 release, 40 years after the riots and trial which divided the nation.

As the news spread, Hoffman's brother, political admirers and skeptical observers of Abbie's antics amid the Chicago riots during the 1968 Democratic convention

HOFFMAN, *Page C11*

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Clockwise from top left: Abbie Hoffman, 8, with his brother Jack, 5. Abbie and Anita Hoffman with baby. Hoffman on Chicago's Michigan Avenue. "Steal This Book." Sacha Baron Cohen. The Chicago 7.

Ellis Paul brings his clear voice and honest songs to Amazing Things

The soul of social change

By Chris Bergeron
DAILY NEWS STAFF

Like the glory days when he was a cross country champ, Ellis Paul keeps chugging along, setting his own pace but still leading the pack.

Growing up in Aroostook County, Maine, he ran across potato fields training for high school track. At Presque Isle High, he played trumpet in the school band, listened to Billy Joel on the radio and sang along with his parents on car trips.

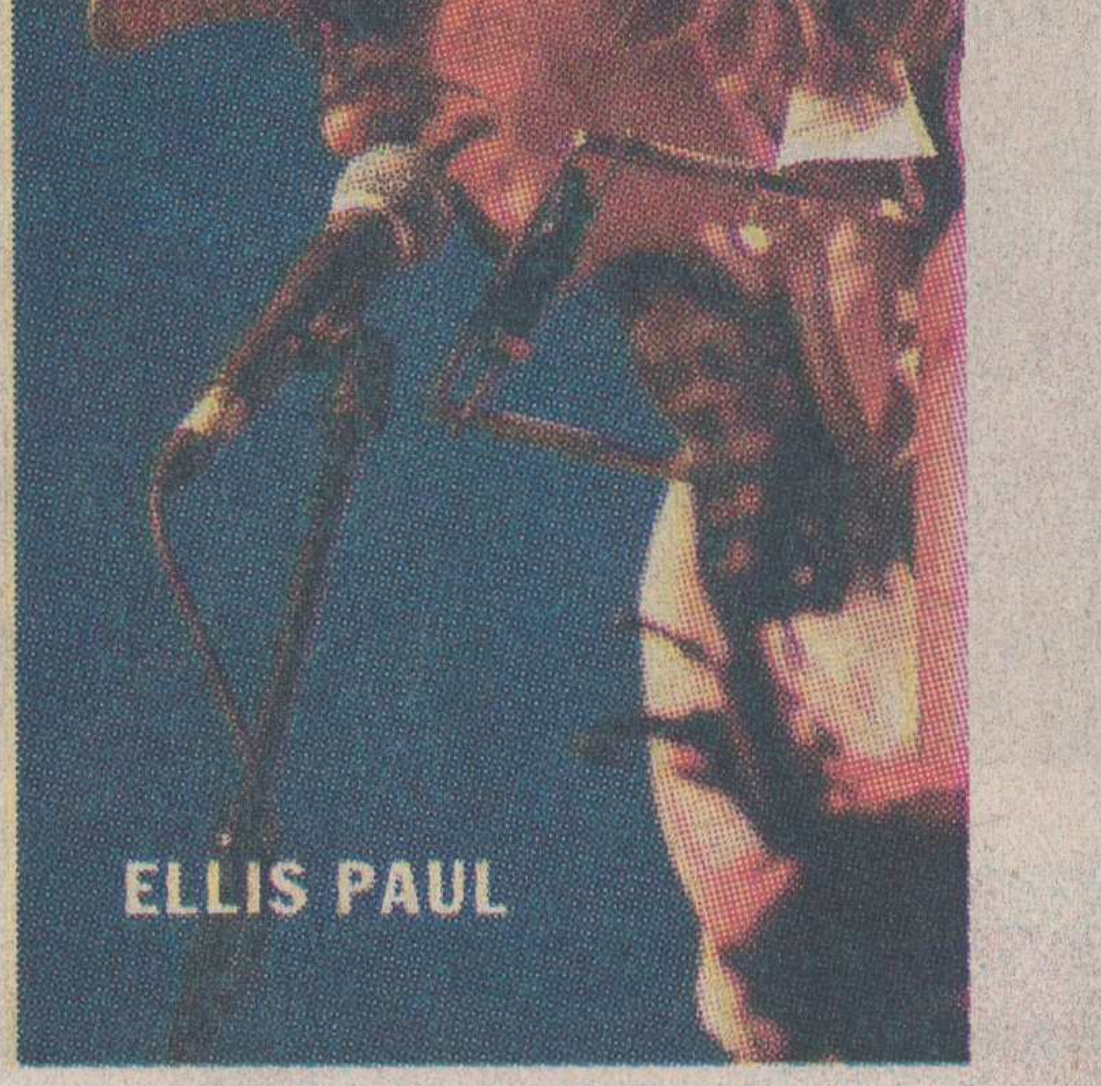
In the early 1980s, Paul's rambles brought him to Boston where he helped revive the local folk music scene. Infusing thoughtful lyrics with populist idealism, he recorded 14 albums and won 13 Boston Music Awards that confirmed a national reputation as a singer-songwriter with brains and heart.

Paul will appear Friday, Jan. 25, at Natick's Wilson Middle School where he'll perform a potpourri of signature hits and tunes from his new album, "The Dragonfly Races."

"I like to kind of mix things up with old favorites and new stuff," said Paul, who'll play guitar and accompany himself on the piano. "I think folks in the audience want me to do my thing. I stay pretty close to what I want to play and take requests toward the end if they're still in the memory bank." Shows typically run from 75 to 90 minutes, he said.

Released in December following the birth of his second daughter Sofi, Paul's 14th album speaks to families with 14 songs that address the everyday

PAUL, *Page C6*

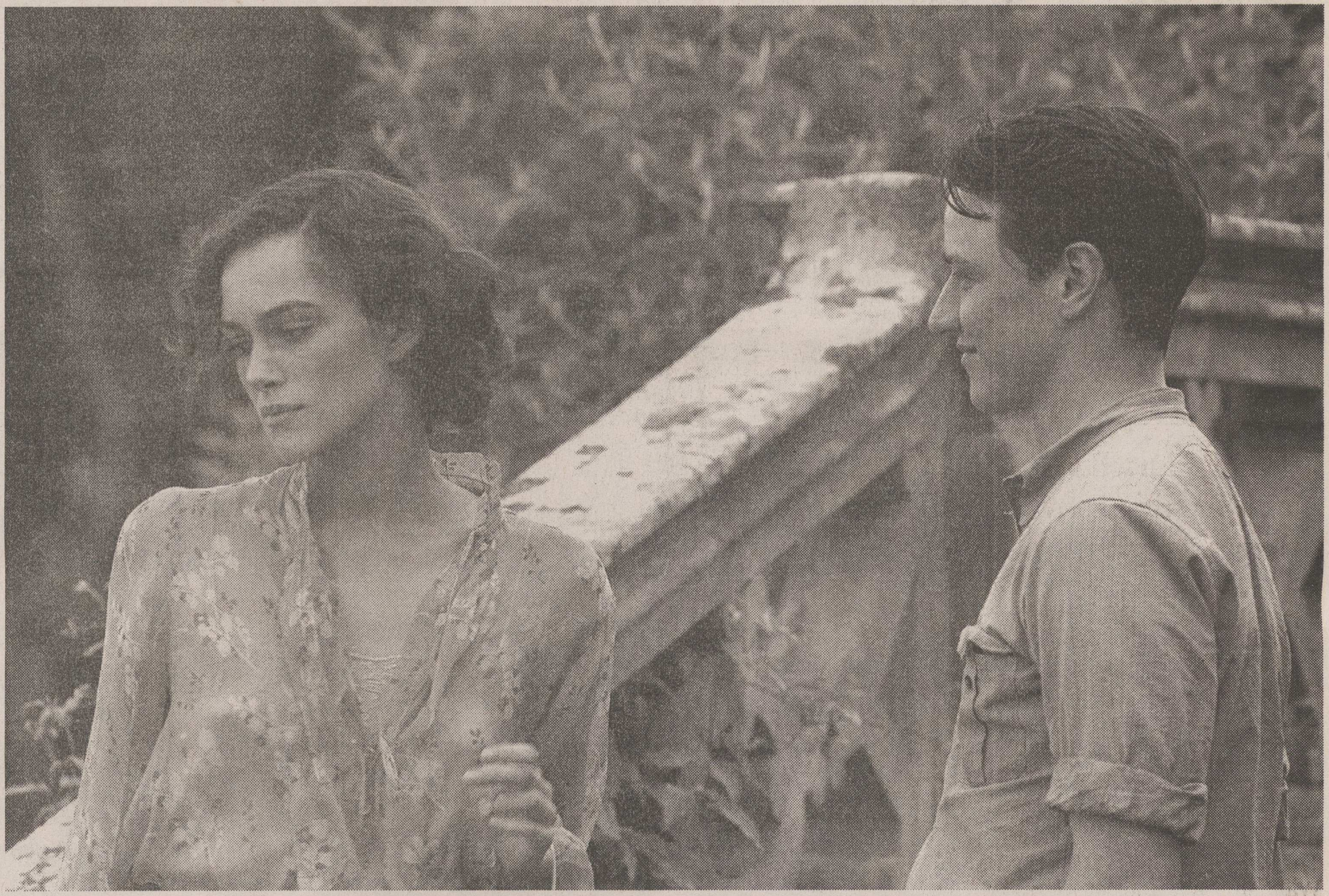


ELLIS PAUL

GIVING THE GOLDEN GLOBES A SPIN

GET REEL

Bob Tremblay
DAILY NEWS STAFF



Keira Knightley and James McAvoy are both nominated for their roles in the wartime romance "Atonement."

Just because the writers strike put the kibosh on the Golden Globes' glitzy ceremony doesn't mean awards won't be announced and ditzy predictions can't be made.

For the record, the Hollywood Foreign Press Association, the organization that bestows the Golden Globes, will reveal the winners during an hour-long press conference at The Beverly Hilton to be covered live by NBC News beginning at 9 tonight.

As for the predictions, the crystal ball belonging to yours truly has become so clouded with confusion it resembles a volleyball. Shoo-ins are as hard to find as Hollywood Republicans. But we will nevertheless persevere. To butcher the words of Wee Willie Shakespeare, once more into the breach, dear friends, once more.

BEST PICTURE, DRAMA

➤ **Nominees:** "American Gangster," "Atonement," "Eastern Promises," "The Great Debaters," "Michael Clayton," "No Country for Old Men" and "There Will Be Blood."

Several critics groups, including the Boston Society of Film Critics of which yours truly is a member, have selected "No Country for Old Men," though the Los Angeles Film Critics Association picked "There Will be Blood."

Neither of those fun-filled films sent my salivary glands into overdrive, though I admire both movies. Actually, none of the nominees wows me. My favorite film of the year was actually "Ratatouille." Brilliantly written and executed, it's one of those rare films everyone can enjoy.

"Atonement," which received the most Golden Globe nominations, could win, also. Any other selection would have to be considered a surprise.

Put a gun to my head, or more accurately the nozzle of an air-pressure tank, and I'll choose **"No Country for Old Men."**

BEST PICTURE, MUSICAL OR COMEDY

➤ **Nominees:** "Across the Universe," "Charlie Wilson's War," "Hairspray," "Juno" and "Sweeney Todd."

The only candidate without a prayer is "Universe." "Hairspray" has an outside shot, but this looks like a three-horse race between "War," "Juno" and "Todd." I don't consider "War," while certainly comical in spots, a comedy. The slaughtering of Afghans never struck me as funny. I also had issues with "Todd" - I prefer people who can really sing in my musicals. So "Juno," a flawed film with a great ensemble cast, *seems* to win by default.

So, of course, I'll pick **"Sweeney Todd"** by a neck.

BEST ACTRESS, DRAMA

➤ **Nominees:** Cate Blanchett, "Elizabeth: The Golden Age"; Julie Christie, "Away From Her"; Jodie Foster, "The Brave One"; Angelina Jolie, "A Mighty Heart"; and Kiera Knightley, "Atonement."

The favorite here is **Julie Christie,** and she gets my vote. Playing a woman with Alzheimer's disease, she eschews the maudlin trappings of disease-of-the-month TV movies. Blanchett and Foster are longshots, and Jolie a possibility, while Knightley could pull off an upset.

BEST ACTRESS, MUSICAL OR COMEDY

➤ **Nominees:** Amy Adams, "Enchanted"; Nikki Blonsky, "Hairspray"; Helena Bonham Carter, "Sweeney Todd"; Marion Cotillard, "La Vie En Rose"; and Ellen Page, "Juno."

With the exception of Carter, all these nominees are worthy, and I liked every performance. Until I saw "Enchanted" and "Juno," Cotillard was my pick. While the French thespian deserves to win for her mesmerizing portrayal of Edith Piaf, I think the Foreign Press will look elsewhere. Blonsky could score an upset, but the race should be between Adams and Page. It's coin-tossing time. The coin goes with the enchanting **Amy Adams.** Makes sense.

> Javier Bardem's portrayal of a brutal killer without a conscience is the stuff awards are made of. He'll win the Oscar, too.

BEST ACTOR, DRAMA

➤ **Nominees:** George Clooney, "Michael Clayton"; Daniel Day-Lewis, "There Will Be Blood"; James McAvoy, "Atonement"; Viggo Mortensen, "Eastern Promises"; and Denzel Washington, "American Gangster."

Another excellent field, but the buzz belongs to the amazing **Daniel Day-Lewis,** so I'll join the swarm. He plays an oil man gushing with foibles. The Foreign Press sadly ignored the bravura performance of Frank Langella in "Starting Out in the Evening."

BEST ACTOR, MUSICAL OR COMEDY

➤ **Nominees:** Johnny Depp, "Sweeney Todd"; Ryan Gosling, "Lars and the Real Girl"; Tom Hanks, "Charlie Wilson's War"; Philip Seymour Hoffman, "The Savages"; and John C. Reilly, "Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story."

Depp probably has the inside track in this wide-open field. Only Hoffman has to be considered a long shot, and that's only because "The Savages" isn't a comedy - unless you find dementia and death humorous.

Again, yours truly is clueless. Gosling deserves to win, but I'll go with **Johnny Depp.** He puts his character on the cutting edge, so to speak.

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS

➤ **Nominees:** Cate Blanchett, "I'm Not There"; Julia Roberts, "Charlie Wilson's War"; Saoirse Ronan, "Atonement"; Amy Ryan, "Gone Baby Gone"; Tilda Swinton, "Michael Clayton."

A darling of critics - and for good reason - **Amy Ryan** is the favorite here and she deserves to win. She takes an unsympathetic character and turns her into a human being instead of a devil in a short dress. The only other contenders are Blanchett and Ronan. Take Ryan out of the picture and I'd chose Ronan.

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR

➤ **Nominees:** Casey Affleck, "The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford"; Javier Bardem, "No Country for Old Men"; Philip Seymour Hoffman, "Charlie Wilson's War"; John Travolta, "Hairspray"; and Tom Wilkinson, "Michael Clayton."

This is one of the few sure bets. Bardem's portrayal of a brutal killer without a conscience is the stuff awards are made of. He's going to win the Oscar, too. Bet the mortgage on **Javier Bardem.**

BEST DIRECTOR

➤ **Nominees:** Tim Burton, "Sweeney Todd"; Ethan Coen and Joel Coen, "No Country for Old Men"; Julian Schnabel, "The Diving Bell and the Butterfly"; Ridley Scott, "American Gangster"; and Joe Wright, "Atonement."

The Coens are the consensus pick here, with Schnabel a distant second. The brothers took a tale of amorality and brought it to lugubrious life on screen. **Ethan and Joel Coen** deserve the award.

✦ ✦ ✦

In other categories, Diablo Cody should win best screenplay for "Juno," "The Diving Bell and the Butterfly" should win best foreign film and "Ratatouille" will most definitely win best animated film.

MOVIE TRIVIA CONTEST

Be the first to answer correctly and **WIN $10 GIFT CERTIFICATE** to The Vin Bin in Marlborough

Scrutiny on the bounty

It's now time for **TRIVIA.**

Last month's tester: What disease do characters played by Richard Burton, Kirk Douglas and Colin Farrell have in common? In addition to naming the disease, name the characters who had the disease.

Answer: Epilepsy. Both Burton and Farrell played Alexander the Great, and Douglas played Vincent van Gogh. The only person to answer the question correctly was Michael Matondi of Hopedale. Congratulations!

This month's tester: When asked his name in a 1970s movie, what actor, playing a bounty hunter, instead gives the name of a famous character from a 1940s movie? In addition to naming the actor, name the 1970s movie, the 1940s movie and the character from the 1940s movie.

The first person to answer the trivia question correctly will receive a $10 gift certificate for The Vin Bin, 27 South Bolton St. (Rte. 85 near Rte. 20) in Marlborough.

Trivia enthusiasts can call me at 508-626-4409 or e-mail me at btremblay@cnc.com.

Make sure you leave your name, address and number. Callers should spell out their names slowly and clearly so their names will be spelled correctly. Only one guess per household, please. Answers will be accepted until 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 15. Good luck!

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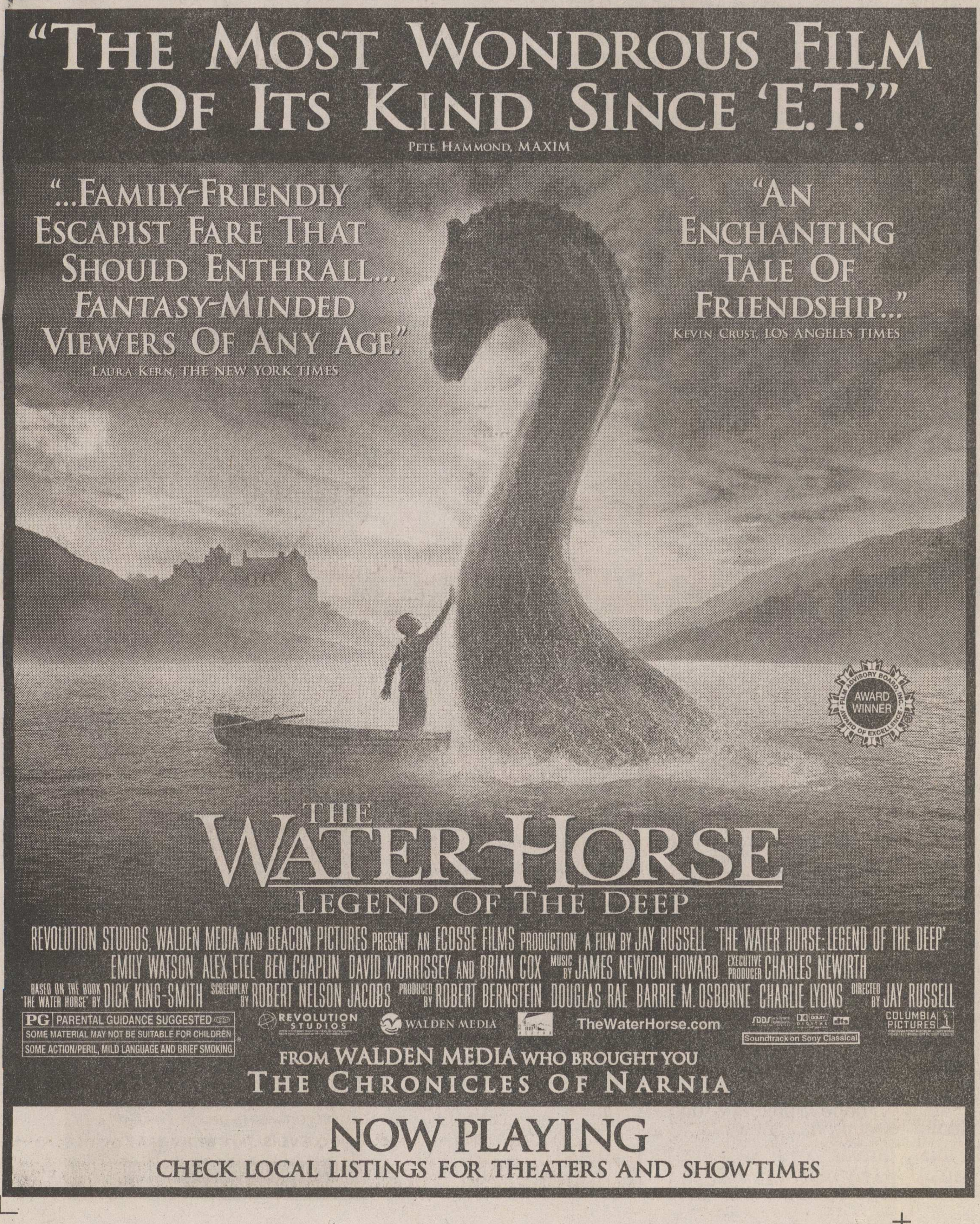

"THE MOST WONDROUS FILM OF ITS KIND SINCE 'E.T.'"
PETE HAMMOND, MAXIM
"...FAMILY-FRIENDLY ESCAPIST FARE THAT SHOULD ENTHRALL... FANTASY-MINDED VIEWERS OF ANY AGE."
LAURA KERN, THE NEW YORK TIMES
"AN ENCHANTING TALE OF FRIENDSHIP..."
KEVIN CRUST, LOS ANGELES TIMES
THE WATER HORSE
LEGEND OF THE DEEP
REVOLUTION STUDIOS, WALDEN MEDIA AND BEACON PICTURES PRESENT AN ECOSSE FILMS PRODUCTION A FILM BY JAY RUSSELL "THE WATER HORSE: LEGEND OF THE DEEP" EMILY WATSON ALEX ETEL BEN CHAPLIN DAVID MORRISSEY AND BRIAN COX MUSIC BY JAMES NEWTON HOWARD EXECUTIVE PRODUCER CHARLES NEWIRTH BASED ON THE BOOK "THE WATER HORSE" BY DICK KING-SMITH SCREENPLAY BY ROBERT NELSON JACOBS PRODUCED BY ROBERT BERNSTEIN DOUGLAS RAE BARRIE M. OSBORNE CHARLIE LYONS DIRECTED BY JAY RUSSELL
PG PARENTAL GUIDANCE SUGGESTED SOME MATERIAL MAY NOT BE SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN SOME ACTION/PERIL, MILD LANGUAGE AND BRIEF SMOKING
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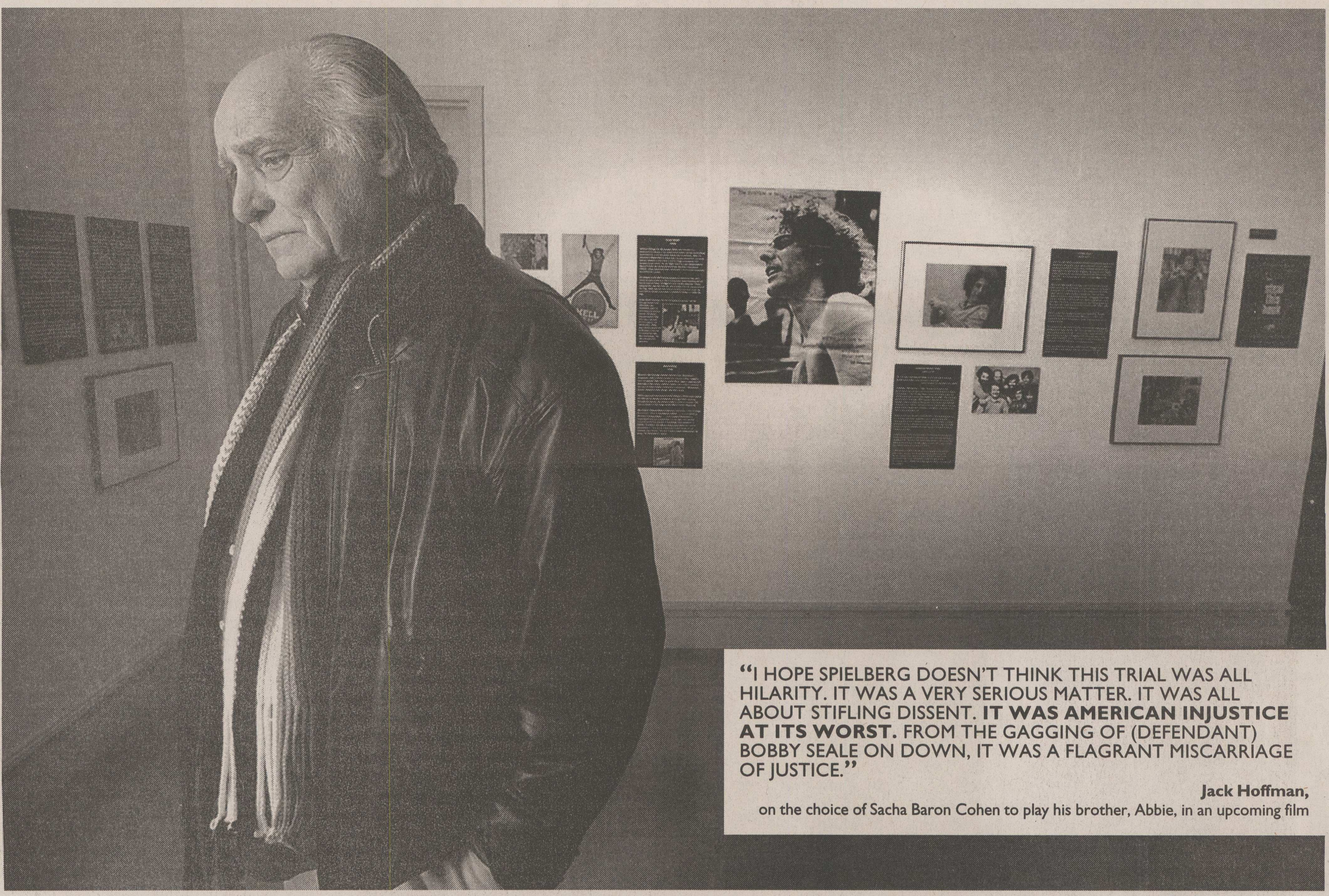


"I HOPE SPIELBERG DOESN'T THINK THIS TRIAL WAS ALL HILARITY. IT WAS A VERY SERIOUS MATTER. IT WAS ALL ABOUT STIFLING DISSENT. **IT WAS AMERICAN INJUSTICE AT ITS WORST.** FROM THE GAGGING OF (DEFENDANT) BOBBY SEALE ON DOWN, IT WAS A FLAGRANT MISCARRIAGE OF JUSTICE."

Jack Hoffman,
on the choice of Sacha Baron Cohen to play his brother, Abbie, in an upcoming film

DAILY NEWS FILE PHOTO BY ALLAN JUNG

Jack Hoffman of Framingham remembers his activist brother, Abbie, at the Worcester Historical Musuem's 2007 exhibit of the 1960s radical.

WHEN BORAT MET ABBIE

HOFFMAN, *From C1*

debated whether Spielberg's casting was inspired or ludicrous.

Several felt Cohen, who starred in the mockumentary "Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan" relied too much on absurdist humor to ever capture Hoffman's crazy-as-a-fox politics. They disagreed whether the actor, whose anti-Semitic vulgarity as Borat left audiences either roaring or ripping, is the right guy to play Hoffman, often described as the "clown prince" of the radical left in the '60s.

Can an actor famous for inventing fantastic characters like jive-talking Ali G, gay fashionista Bruno and the faux-journalist Borat, who's always looking to "make sexy time," play Hoffman, a complex and conflicted man who urged his generation to make "Revolution for the Hell of It."

Younger brother Jack Hoffman worries Cohen's zany movie persona could obscure his brother's political motives and strategies.

"I'm very concerned with them taking liberties. What happened in Chicago wasn't a Marx brothers comedy. It was scary. You didn't know what would happen next," said the Framingham resident. "Abbie is Abbie, no matter who plays him. There can never be another Abbie on screen."

Three years younger than his brother, Jack Hoffman attended the trial that Abbie and fellow defendant Jerry Rubin often disrupted with politically charged tirades directed at Judge Julius Hoffman. Jack recalled his brother entering the courtroom wearing judicial robes to mock the proceedings. Abbie made an obscene gesture when sworn in as a witness and called the judge "a disgrace to Jews."

Jack Hoffman believes the federal government trumped up charges against Abbie and his co-defendants to silence the antiwar movement, an injustice he believes the Bush administration is repeating.

"I hope Spielberg doesn't think this trial was all hilarity. It was a very serious matter. It was all about stifling dissent," Hoffman said. "It was American injustice at its worst. From the gagging of (defendant) Bobby Seale on down, it was a flagrant miscarriage of justice."

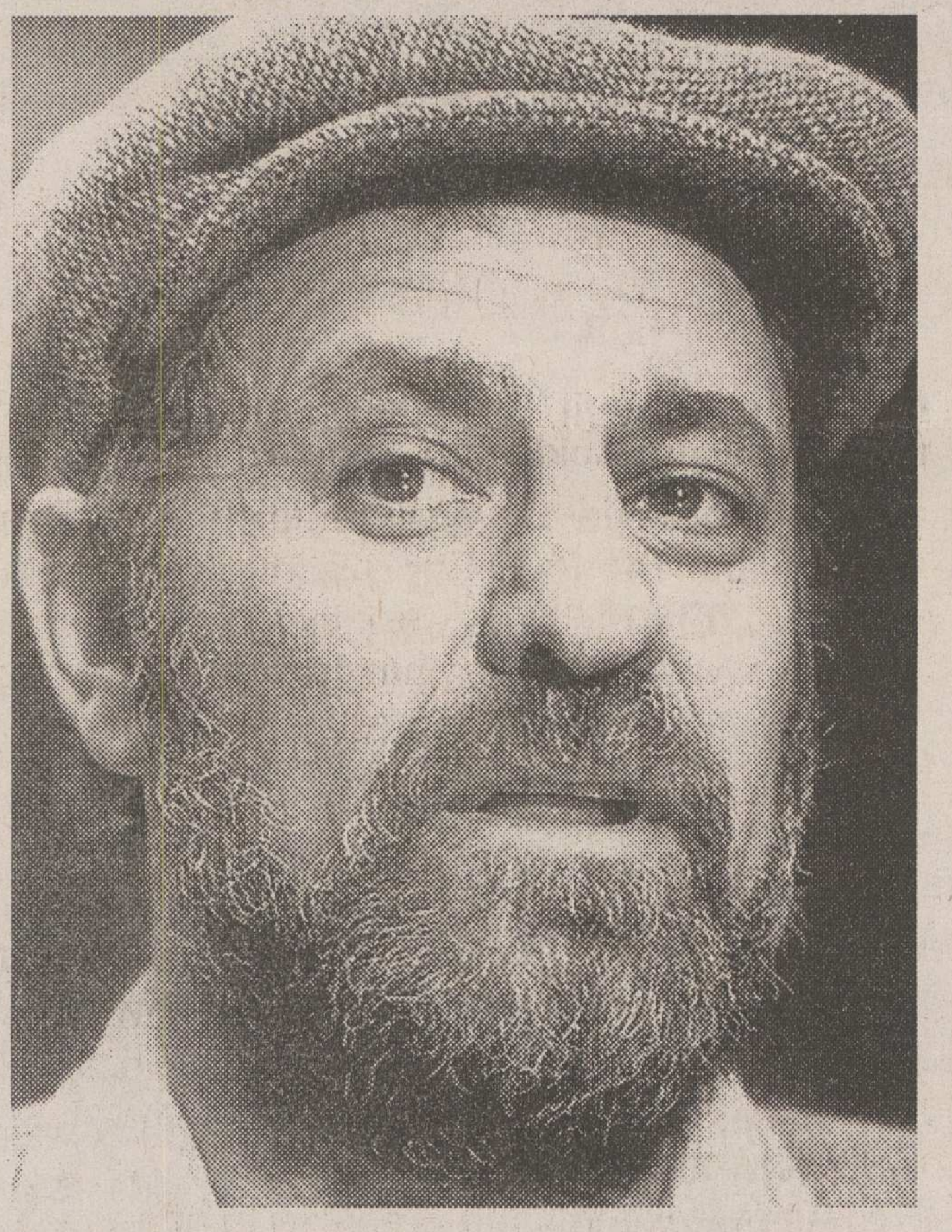
While appreciating Cohen's comedic skills, Hoffman questions how the 6-foot-3-inch Cohen can portray his wiry 5-foot-7-inch brother. "I like Cohen. He's got a ballsy sense of humor like Abbie. But he's almost a foot taller," he said.

Several books revealing Hoffman's self-described "left, progressive" politics and suspicion about big government lay on an end table. They include "Contempt: How the Right is Wronging American Justice" by Catherine Crier, Robert Donovan's "Rights in Conflict" about the Chicago riots, and a thick transcript of the six-month long trial.

After his brother's death in 1989, Jack wrote "Run, Run, Run: The Lives of Abbie Hoffman" with co-author Daniel Simon.

Pop history hasn't been kind to Abbie Hoffman's legacy. In the movie "Forrest Gump," he was portrayed as a political poseur. To digital-age youth, Hoffman seems as distant as Joe Hill and the suffrage movement.

Born Abbott Howard Hoffman in 1936 and raised by first generation Jewish immigrant parents in a blue collar neighborhood, he was a street-wise rebel who was radicalized at Brandeis University. Along with Rubin, he cofounded the Youth International Party, or Yippies, to end U.S. involvement in Vietnam. As the public face of the Chicago Seven along with Rubin, Hoffman was tried for conspiracy to incite a riot, convicted and later acquitted. Following a conviction for dealing cocaine, he spent seven years as a fugitive.



Abbie Hoffman

Hoffman resurfaced in 1980 and nine years later, suffering from depression and bipolar disorder, committed suicide by mixing 150 Phenobarbital pills and single-malt Scotch whiskey.

Several people who knew Hoffman from a distance and hold varying opinions about him doubt Cohen can capture his idealism, his role in the "nutty fringe" or his ultimate insignificance.

Holly V. Izard, who organized the 2007 exhibit "To Abbie With Love" at the Worcester Historical Museum, described Cohen as "a very poor choice" to play Hoffman, whom she respects as an idealistic revolutionary.

"(Cohen) is a clown. That man made a stupid movie. Abbie Hoffman deserves better than that," she said. "He might have done clownish things at the trial to make a political point. But Cohen capitalizes on the clownish."

The museum's curator of collections, Izard worries Spielberg's movie will focus on Hoffman's confrontational tactics during the trial, which caused many to lose sight of his "tenacity and commitment" to social change.

"Abbie turned the courtroom into a circus because he was trying to make a spectacle of a trial that shouldn't have occurred," she said. "He had a complex mind and a plan to improve society. Why take a man (like Cohen) who's already played a clown to portray Abbie?"

Like Jack Hoffman, Izard doubts the rangy Cohen can replicate the muscular grace of Hoffman, who wrestled for Brandeis.

Asked to name an actor who could play Hoffman, she suggested Christian Bale who portrays singer Bob Dylan during his Greenwich Village folk singing phase in Todd Haynes' film "I'm Not There."

Izard said she is considering writing Spielberg to express her concerns that a film centered on Cohen as Hoffman "could be a perversion of a very real, very intelligent person."

While retired English Professor Mary Murphy has known Jack Hoffman for more than 30 years, she only knew Abbie as a shadowy presence on Chicago's streets while attending the 1968 Democratic Convention at the invitation of peace candidate Eugene McCarthy.

A Framingham resident who spent most of her teaching career at Framingham State College, she still remembers seeing fires set by protesters burning through the night around Michigan Avenue and Lincoln Park. And she recalled police in riot gear battling protesters.

"I just hope Spielberg doesn't make a mockery of a very peculiar time. There was nothing funny about Chicago in 1968. I think putting (Cohen) in the movie is going to make it a farce," she said.

HOFFMAN BROTHERS TIMELINE

Nov. 30, 1936
Abbott "Abbie" Howard Hoffman born in Worcester

Sept. 13, 1939
Jack Hoffman born in Worcester

1961-1968
Jack Hoffman served in U.S. Army Reserves as a medic

March 26, 1966
Abbie Hoffman led an anti-war protest in Worcester

Aug. 24, 1967
Abbie Hoffman and other Yippies scatter dollar bills at New York Stock Exchange

1968
Jack Hoffman volunteers on Gene McCarthy's presidential campaign and later serves as delegate for Shirley Chisholm

1961-1976
Jack Hoffman works at and eventually manages family business, Worcester Medical Supply

August 1968
Abbie Hoffman and thousands demonstrate at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago. Hoffman and Yippies "nominate" a pig named Pigasus the Immortal for president

March 1969
Abbie Hoffman and eight others, including Bobby Seale, are indicted for conspiracy to incite a riot. Except for Seale, their convictions were overturned on appeal

1973
Abbie Hoffman is arrested for intent to distribute cocaine. He goes underground for seven years working as an environmental activist under the name Barry Freed.

November 1986
Abbie Hoffman is charged, along with Amy Carter, for trespassing at UMass-Amherst to protest CIA recruiters on campus. He is found not guilty.

April 12, 1989
Abbie Hoffman commits suicide in New Hope, Pa.

1994
Jack Hoffman publishes "Run, Run, Run," a biography of his brother

A longtime Democratic activist, Murphy first met Jack Hoffman when he joined a local Peace Group of McCarthy supporters agitating to end the war.

She believes Abbie's role in "the lunatic fringe" of 1960s politics may have provoked violence that drove middle class voters who harbored doubts about the war into Richard Nixon's camp.

"I think Abbie was an innocent who didn't realize what he was going to do," Murphy said. "I don't think he realized how far he'd gone."

With U.S. soldiers dying today in another unpopular foreign war, Murphy fears an overblown performance by Cohen as Hoffman could discourage younger voters from getting involved in meaningful social change.

"I fear the serious political effort of the '60s might be diminished," she said. "Spielberg and Cohen need to be very careful and not emphasize the antic side of those events. We're a long way from those days and unless you were there you can't have a sense of how frightening it was."

Photographer Stef Leinwohl knows the exact date he crossed paths with Abbie Hoffman, because he remembers police tear gas burning his eyes.

On Aug. 8, 1968, Hoffman and other Yippies were marching down Michigan Avenue when they clashed with police who tear gassed them, he said. "Tear gas burns your eyeballs out of your head. You just go nuts," Leinwohl remembered. "Cops overreacted and pushed protesters through glass windows of a Hay Market restaurant."

A 28-year-old studio photographer who freelanced for an alternative newspaper, Leinwohl photographed Hoffman resting on the pavement beneath an overhead rail line after a running confrontation with police. In his striking photo, Abbie grins as if pleased at the chaos he's provoked.

Lying down beside Hoffman, Leinwohl framed his photo to capture police and National Guardsmen bustling in the background partially obscured by Hoffman's tangled hair.

"Shooting something like that, I was trying to capture the essence of the moment graphically," he recalled with evident pride. "Spielberg has got to see that picture because it captures the drama and awesomeness of everything that was going on." The photo is included in Jack Hoffman's book with the caption "Abbie takes a break from the revolution."

Asked if Cohen was the right choice to portray Hoffman, Leinwohl thought a moment and said with a chuckle, "With the right makeup, Cohen will look like Abbie when Spielberg gets through with him."

Looking back, Leinwohl doubts Yippies took the same risks as his Jewish parents who faced persecution during the McCarthy era because of their involvement in the civil rights movement.

"That whole thing in Chicago was a lot of absurdist theater. Rubin was just a nutty guy. Hoffman seemed more serious. There was nobody very monumental among them," he said. "All of a sudden a lot of bad stuff happened and that was it. That was the end of playing games."

Calendar

EVENTS IN AND AROUND YOUR TOWN

PICK OF THE WEEK

Monty's Python's "Spamalot," the Tony Award-winning musical comedy about King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table, returns to Boston Jan. 15-27 for performances at The Opera House. Based on the film "Monty Python and the Holy Grail," the show features a chorus line of dancing divas and knights, flatulent Frenchman, killer rabbits and one legless knight. Tickets are $30-$90. Call 617-931-2787 or visit ticketmaster.com.

TODAY

THE CENTER FOR ARTS IN NATICK, 14 Summer St. Girl Authority, the Sudbury-based tween group, performs **today** at 2 p.m. Tickets are $12-$10. **Tonight** at 7, the Triple Helix launches a two-year concert series exploring chamber music inspired by authentic folk traditions. Tonight's program features music by Debussy, Ravel and Faure. Admission is $25/$20. Call 508-647-0097 or visit natickarts.org.

CONCORD CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY presents a concert featuring the Peabody Trio **today** at 3 p.m., at Concord Academy, 166 Main St. The trio will perform music by Ravel, Long and Schubert. A pre-concert talk takes place at 2 p.m. Admission is $35-$25. Call 978-371-9667 or visit concordchambermusic.org.

DANFORTH MUSEUM OF ART, 123 Union Ave., Framingham, hosts a gallery talk with Conley Harris **today** at 3 p.m. His work, which has been on view in the Swartz Family Gallery since Dec. 5, reflects his interest in Persian and Indian miniatures. This is the final day to see his exhibit titled "Lyrical Tableaux." The talk is free with museum admission of $8/$7. A brief reception follows. Call 508-620-0500 or visit danforthmuseum.org.

ENTER STAGE LEFT THEATER WORKSHOP stages "Annie Jr.," featuring a cast of 35 local actors ages 7-13, **today** at 2 p.m., and **Jan. 18 and 19** at 7 p.m., at the Hopkinton Middle School Auditorium. Tickets are $10 or $15 with a backstage pass. Visit enterstagelefttheater.com.

NEW ENGLAND OPERA CLUB presents the comic opera "L'Elisia D'Amore Revisited" **today** at 2 p.m., at the Waltham Public Library, 735 Main St. Admission is free. Call 781-314-3425.

NEW ENGLAND BOAT SHOW, featuring some 1,000 fully rigged boats and 500 exhibits showcasing the latest in marine electronics and boating accessories, runs through **Jan. 20** at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center. Tickets are $13/$7. Call 800-225-1577 or log on to neboatshow.com.

ACTON JAZZ CAFE, 452 Great Road. Enjoy a Sunday Jazz Brunch with the Paul Broadnax Trio **today** from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Cover is $10. A Jazz Jam follows at 4 p.m. Cover is $5. Call 978-263-6161 or visit actonjazzcafe.com.

STONES PUBLIC HOUSE, 176 Main St., Ashland. Pete Henderson and Co. lead a Blues Jam **tonight** from 8-midnight. No cover. Call 508-881-1778.

BULLFINCHS, 730 Boston Post Road, Sudbury, hosts a Live Jazz Brunch featuring the Russ Carlton Trio **today** from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Join Dan & Nat Bongiorno for an evening of acoustic blues **tonight** from 5:30-8:30. Call 978-443-4094 or visit bullfinchs.com.

MONDAY

GATEWAY CAMERA CLUB exhibits images by members through **Jan. 31** at the Framingham Public Library, 49 Lexington St. Call 508-879-3570.

THE A CAPPELLA SINGERS, an all-women choir, holds auditions for new members **Jan. 14, 21 and 28** from 7-9:30, at Fisk United Methodist Church, 106 Walnut St., Natick. Visit theacappellasingers.org.

'OFFICE SPACE,' an exhibit featuring ordinary objects from the office transformed by six artists into extraordinary images and installations, is on view **Jan. 14-Feb. 24** at the New Art Center of Newton, 61 Washington Park. Meet the artists at a reception **Jan. 18** from 6-8 p.m. A gallery talk takes place **Feb. 10** at 2 p.m. Call 617-964-3424 or visit newartcenter.org.

THE CENTER FOR ARTS IN NATICK Phil and Trisha Knudsen host a Folk Open Mic featuring Curt Bessette **tonight** at 8. Admission is $5. Call 508-647-0097.

CONCERT For more than three decades, Northern Lights has been performing its unique brand of bluegrass at festivals and concert halls across the country and abroad, including the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. Now a quintet, the veteran string band features 18-year-old fiddler prodigy Mike Barnett of Longmeadow, who was awarded one of two Daniel Pearl Memorial Violins in 2007. Catch the group Saturday, Jan. 19, at 8 p.m., when it takes the stage at The Center for Arts in Natick. Joining it will be Jake Armerding, a former member of the band, who will perform his own genre-blending material with old friends. Tickets are $22/$20. Call 508-647-0097 or visit natickarts.org.

PRO MUSICA YOUTH CHORUS invites young singers in grades 3-12 to join rehearsals **Jan. 14 and 28** at 6:30, at Hudson High School's Chorus Room, 69 Brigham St. Call 978-562-1646 or visit upwitharts.org.

'TAKE A WINTER WALK' through Gore Place, a 45-acre estate off Rte. 20 in Waltham, weekdays from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Visitors may search for animal tracks, identify plants and more with the help of an activity backpack that can be rented for $5. Snowshoes are also available for $5. Call 781-894-2798.

PLAIN WHITE T'S performs a special concert at the TD Banknorth Garden in Boston **tonight** following the Celtics vs. Washington Wizards Game. Tickets begin at $10 and include Celtics NBA action. Visit celtics.com.

TUESDAY

AMAZING THINGS ARTS CENTER, 55 Nicholas Road, Framingham. Join John Funkhouser for a Jazz Jam **tonight** at 8. Admission is $6/$5. Call 508-405-2787 or visit amazingthings.org.

SHERBORN INN, routes 16 and 27, hosts the Blue Horizon Jazz Band **tonight** from 7-9:30. Admission is $15. Call 508-655-9521.

WEDNESDAY

DANFORTH MUSEUM OF ART welcomes artist Sarah Williams for a gallery talk **today** at noon. The event is free with museum admission of $8/$7. Call 508-620-0500.

HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP of the Framingham Historical Society and Museum meets **tonight** at 7:30, at Barnes & Noble Booksellers, Shoppers World, Framingham. Henry Hicks, past president of the New England History Teachers Association, will lead the discussion of Edward Larson's book "A Magnificent Catastrophe, America's First Presidential Campaign in 1800." Admission is free. Call 508-872-3780.

AMAZING THINGS ARTS CENTER Tonight at 7:30, it's an Indie Local Film Night. Admission is $7/$6. Call 508-405-2787.

HARVEST CAFE, 40 Washington St., Hudson. Join singer-songwriter Steve Howard for an Open Mike **tonight** from 7-9. No cover. Dinner is available from 5-9. Call 978-567-0948 or visit harvestcafeonline.com.

THE COLONIAL INN, 48 Monument Square, Concord. Jimmy Mazzy and the Last Minute Men perform traditional jazz **tonight** at 8. No cover. Call 978-369-9200 or visit concordscolonialinn.com.

FIREFLY'S UNPLUGGED, 235 Old Connecticut Path, Framingham. Bruce Marshall hosts an Acoustic Blues Open Mike **tonight** at 8. No cover. Call 508-820-3333 or visit fireflysbbq.com.

ACTON JAZZ CAFE Tonight at 7, it's Starchild. Cover is $5. Bergonzi, Gertz, Kaufman & Guerrero perform at 9. Cover is $9. Call 978-263-6161.

THURSDAY

WELLESLEY SUMMER THEATRE COMPANY stages Irish playwright Marina Carr's play "The Mai" Thursday-Sunday through **Feb. 3,** at the Ruth Nagel Jones Theatre, Wellesley College, 106 Central St. Set on Owl Lake in western Ireland, the play follows seven women of one family. Tickets are $25/$15. Call 781-283-2000 or visit wellesleysummertheatre.com.

AMAZING THINGS ARTS CENTER Dan Cloutier hosts a Folk Open Mike featuring Rick Fetters **tonight** at 7:30. Admission is $6/$5. Call 508-405-2787.

FOOTHILLS THEATRE, 100 Front St., Worcester, stages "Sisters of Swing! The Story of the Andrews Sisters" Thursday-Sunday through **Feb. 2.** Tickets are $32-$38. Discounts are available for groups. Call 508-754-4018 or visit foothillstheatre.com.

'AMERICAN TWISTORY,' a hysterical look at America, runs Thursday-Sunday at the Comcast Cabaret Theatre, 75 Warrenton St., Boston. Tickets are $47.50 or $45. Bar seating is $29.50 at the door. Call 857-366-8181.

THE COLONIAL INN John Fitzsimmons & Friends perform traditional pub songs **tonight** at 8. No cover. Casual dining available. Call 978-369-9200.

HARVEST CAFE Tonight from 8-10, it's Ameri-MF-cana, featuring the folk acoustic duo of Sue Burkhard and Ed Vadas. No cover. Dinner is available from 5-9. Call 978-567-0948.

FRIDAY

THE CENTER FOR ARTS IN NATICK Join the legendary folksinger Tom Rush **tonight** at 8. Tickets are $36-$33. Call 508-647-0097.

AMAZING THINGS ARTS CENTER Tonight at 8, it's Nerissa and Katryna Nields with Sam Glier opening. Admission is $15-$12. Call 508-405-2787.

ACTON TEEN REPERTORY THEATRE stages "Grease," a new '50s Rock 'n Roll Musical School Version, **Jan. 18, 19, 25 and 26** at 7 p.m.; and **Jan. 20 and 27** at 5 p.m., at the Paul P. Gates Elementary School, 75 Spruce St., Acton. Admission is free but donations are appreciated. Call 978-264-9608 or visit acton-ma.gov.

'RENT,' the hit Broadway musical, will be performed **Jan. 18-20** at the Providence Performing Arts Center in Rhode Island. Tickets are $65-$38. Call 401-421-ARTS or visit ppacri.org

DANTE'S OF MARLBOROUGH, Firefly's BBQ, 350 East Main St. (Rte. 20). **Tonight** at 9, it's the Paul Speidel Band with Lisa Marie. Cover is $8. Call 508-357-8883 or visit dantes.fireflysbb.com.

SATURDAY

2008 GREATER BOSTON DANCE CELEBRATION, featuring more than 150 dancers, takes place **today** at 1 and 7 p.m., at Regis College, 235 Wellesley St., Weston. Hosted by the Angel Performance Art Company, the program showcases 10 different groups performing dances from across the world. Tickets are $15 or $50 for VIP seating. Call 978-621-3758 or visit angelperformanceart.com.

AMAZING THINGS ARTS CENTER Nerissa and Katryna Nields perform a children' show **today** at 11 a.m., at 160 Hollis St., Framingham. Admission is $8. Call 508-405-2787.

SYMPHONY PRO MUSICA presents "Celebrating Italian Art," featuring music by Respighi and Puccini, **tonight** at 7:30, at Hudson High School, 69 Brigham St.; and **tomorrow** at 3:30 p.m., at Mill Pond School, 6 Olde Hickory Path, Westborough. Tickets are $20-$16. There's a pre-concert lecture an hour before each concert. Call 978-562-0939 or visit symphonypromusica.org.

'WAKE UP AND SMELL THE POETRY,' a poetry and music series hosted by Cheryl Perreault, continues **today** from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at the HCAM-TV Studio, 77 Main St., Hopkinton. The featured guests are Richard Cambridge, Jennifer Matthews and Lloyd Thayer. An open mic follows. Admission is free. Visit www.hcam.tv.

LACOSTE GALLERY, 25 Main St., Concord, presents "Intimate and Universal Stories," featuring work by Margaret Keelan and Dawn Southworth **Jan. 19-Feb. 10.** Keelan gives an artist's talk **today** at 2:30 p.m., at Emerson Umbrella, 20 Stow St., Concord. An opening reception follows at the gallery from 4-6 p.m. Call 978-369-0278 or visit lacostegallery.com.

'TRACKING YOUR NEIGHBOR'S FOOTSTEPS' is the title of an outing designed to observe wildlife in winter to be led by Sudbury Valley Trustees board member and tracking expert Lydia Rogers **today** from 9:30 a.m.-noon, at Memorial Forest in Sudbury. Admission is $5 for non-members. Registration is required. Call 978-443-5588.

CLASSICAL CONCERT Join violist Dan Stepner and pianist Sally Pinkas **tonight** at 8, at Slosberg Recital Hall, Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham. Tickets are $25-$10. Call 781-736-3400 or visit brandeis.edu.

WINTER LIGHTS CONCERT Acton Community Chorus presents Winter Lights '08, featuring Faure's "Requiem" and other early choral works, **tonight** at 8, at Acton Congregational Church, 11 Concord Road. Tickets at the door are $15/$12. Call John at 978-461-0312.

GREATER BOSTON ANTIQUES FESTIVAL, featuring some 140 dealers displaying antiques from all over the world, returns to the Shriners' Auditorium in Wilmington **today** from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and **tomorrow** from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Admission is $8. Call 781-862-4038 or visit neantiquesshows.com.

ORPHEUM THEATRE in Boston welcomes the Editors with Hot Hot Heat and Louis XIV **tonight** at 7:30. Tickets are $23. Call 617-931-2000.

THE COLONIAL INN Join the Tom Yates Group **tonight** at 8. No cover. Casual dining available. Call 978-369-9200.

Alash – the Throat Singers of Tuva – brings its mix of traditional and Western music to the Amazing Things Arts Center, 160 Hollis St., Framingham, Saturday, Jan. 19, at 8 p.m. The ensemble takes its name from the Alash River that runs through its native region of Tuva. Currently a part of Russia, the central Asian republic was controlled by the Mongols from the 13th-18th centuries. The musicians, trained in their country's traditional techniques by master throat singers, also love Western music, and add instruments such as guitars and Western rhythms and harmonies to the program. Tickets are $20-$17. Call 508-405-2787 or visit amazingthings.com.

The Daily News will list any local event for no charge. Listings must include a description of the event, time, place, cost and contact information. Preference is given to local groups. Listings should be sent to: MetroWest Daily News, Calendar, 33 New York Ave., Framingham, MA 01701 or e-mailed to MWarts@cnc.com. Listings should be sent at least 14 days in advance.

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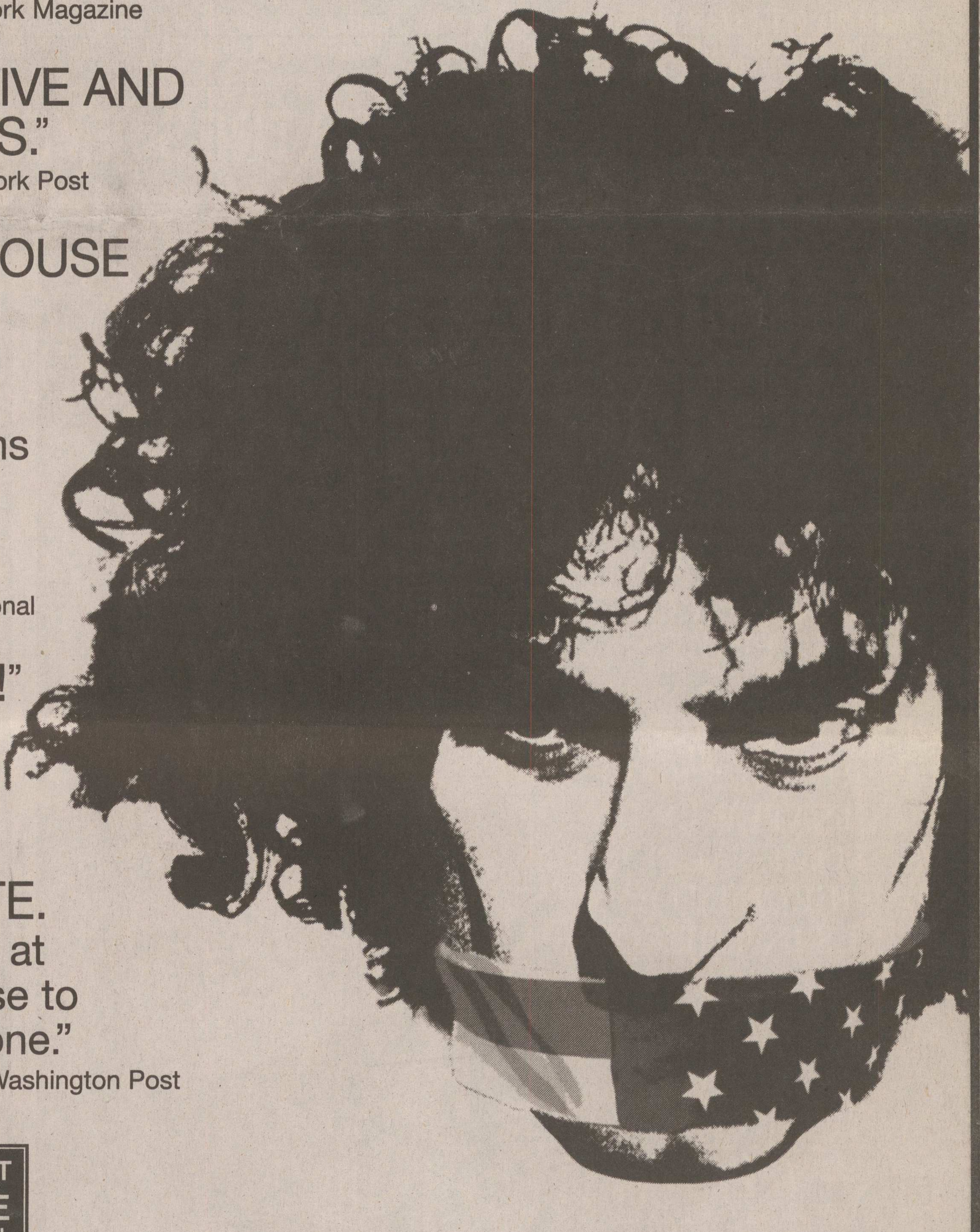

OPENING NIGHT
SUNDANCE
FILM FESTIVAL

HANK AZARIA DYLAN BAKER NICK NOLTE MARK RUFFALO ROY SCHEIDER LIEV SCHREIBER JEFFREY WRIGHT

FROM BRETT MORGEN,
THE DIRECTOR OF
THE KID STAYS IN THE PICTURE

Chicago 10

THE CONVENTION WAS DRAMA. THE TRIAL WAS COMEDY.

ROADSIDE ATTRACTIONS AND RIVER ROAD ENTERTAINMENT AND PARTICIPANT PRODUCTIONS PRESENT A PUBLIC ROAD PRODUCTIONS AND CONSOLIDATED DOCUMENTARIES PRODUCTION IN ASSOCIATION WITH PARTICIPANT PRODUCTIONS AND RIVER ROAD ENTERTAINMENT A FILM BY BRETT MORGEN "CHICAGO 10" HANK AZARIA DYLAN BAKER NICK NOLTE MARK RUFFALO ROY SCHEIDER LIEV SCHREIBER JEFFREY WRIGHT ANIMATION BY CURIOUS PICTURES SOUND DESIGNER PAUL URMSON MUSIC BY JEFF DANNA EDITED BY STUART LEVY, A.C.E. EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS BILL POHLAD LAURA BICKFORD JEFF SKOLL DIANE WEYERMANN PETER SCHLESSEL RICKY STRAUSS PRODUCED BY BRETT MORGEN AND GRAYDON CARTER WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY BRETT MORGEN

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